

Accomplishments & events of his reign

- Longest reign in European history – 54 years
- Fought in many wars – 33/54 years @ war
- Increased army by 4X
- Domesticated the nobility @ Versailles

Examples of Absolute rule

- Ruled alone
- Continued Richelieu's expansionism
- Ordered nobles to live at Versailles
- Reorganized the army
- Revoked Edict of Nantes
- Supported & promoted the arts



Louis XIV
r. 1661-1715

Personal characteristics

- Child king guided by Mazzarin until age 23
- Inspired by the Fronde as a child, distrusted nobility
- The Sun King - "I am the state"
- Believed in divine right
- Devout Catholic
- Mercantilist

Wars

- At war with much of Europe at one time or another, often against coalitions
- Threatened the European balance of power
- War of the League of Augsburg (1689-1697) – ended the dream of expanding to France's 'natural borders'
- War of Spanish Succession – 1701-1713